



Joint Force Provider

As DoD's joint force provider, U.S. Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM) assigns nearly all conventional forces based in the continental U.S., providing trained and capable forces to commanders in the field. Building a joint force requires a considerable degree of coordination with active, National Guard and reserve elements of the armed forces to ensure the deployment of a task-organized integrated team. A joint force may also include elements of the U.S. Coast Guard.

With this joint force provider responsibility, USJFCOM provides informed military force options for supporting operations.

For example, an Air Force general, as a joint task force commander, could command and control the activities of an Army airborne and special operations troops, a Marine expeditionary unit, an Air Force squadron, and a Navy aircraft carrier. That joint force commander would subsequently report to a senior commander with responsibility for all. Military activities in an particular assigned region of the world commonly called an area of responsibility (AOR).

USJFCOM controls more than 80 percent of all continental U.S.-based combat ready conventional forces. In 2006, USJFCOM developed recommendations and coordinated the deployment of more than 290,000 personnel in support of combatant commanders. In October 2006, USJFCOM gained responsibility for management of assignment of individual augmentees to deployed units.

In addition to providing conventional forces, USJFCOM supports joint task forces with capabilities like the Standing Joint Force Headquarters – Core Element (SJFHQ-CE) and subordinate commands like the Joint Communications Support Element (JCSE).

SJFHQ-CEs, a group of 57 experts in command and control procedures, are being established at each geographic combatant command to help integrate air, land, maritime and information capabilities during the establishment of a joint task force headquarters (JTF HQ). Once the new JTF HQ is fully functional and supported, the SJFHQ-CE can be withdrawn to reconstitute and prepare for its next assignment.

Likewise, JCSE -- based at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla -- provides joint task force and joint special operations task force command, control, communications and computer systems support. They can also provide simultaneous communications support for two joint task force headquarters and two joint special operations task force headquarters.